

IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

1       1.       (original) In a client-server environment, a method for providing transparency in a  
2 gateway of an IP network comprising the steps of:

3               interrogating a directory comprising data for each end-user of said IP network;

4               retrieving parameters associated with said data for a first end-user in response to an  
5 access request from a client application of said first end-user;

6               accessing an application server on behalf of said client application in accordance with  
7 said retrieved parameters for said first end-user; and

8               relaying data between said client application and said application server.

1       2.       (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of:

2               creating, in said gateway of said IP network, [a] the directory including entries for every  
3 end-user on said IP network.

1       3.       (original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of:

2               updating, in said gateway of said network, the directory of said end-users, said step of  
3 updating the directory including the steps of:

4               disabling entries for those of said end-users that disconnect;

5               enabling entries for those of said end-users that connect; and

6               updating said entries of said end-users comprising dynamic parameters whenever said  
7 parameters are changing while connected.

1 4. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of retrieving  
2 parameters associated with said end-user for said access request from said client application  
3 includes the steps of:

4 obtaining leading data from said client application having issued said access request for  
5 said end-user;

6 parsing said leading data;

7 determining a protocol said client application is currently using;

8 interrogating said directory at an entry corresponding to said first end-user; retrieving  
9 parameters associated with said protocol; and

10 executing said protocol in accordance with said parameters associated with said protocol.

1 5. (original) The method according to claim 1 further including the step of informing said  
2 end-user of said client application that a server application is unavailable if a link to said  
3 application server is not established.

1 6. (original) A data processing system for providing a gateway of an IP network,  
2 comprising:

3 circuitry operable for interrogating a directory comprising data for each end-user of said  
4 IP network;

5 circuitry operable for retrieving parameters associated with said data for a first end-user  
6 in response to an access request from a client application of said first end-user; and

7 circuitry operable for accessing an application server on behalf of said client application  
8 in accordance with said retrieved parameters for said first end-user; and

9 circuitry operable for relaying data between said client application and said application  
10 server.

1 7. (currently amended) The system according to claim 6 further comprising:

2 circuitry operable for creating, in said gateway of said IP network, [a] the directory  
3 including entries for every end-user on said IP network.

1 8. (original) The system according to claim 6 further comprising:

2 circuitry operable for updating, in said gateway of said network, the directory of said end-  
3 users, said circuitry operable for updating the directory including:

4 circuitry operable for disabling entries for those of said end-users that disconnect;

5 circuitry operable for enabling entries for those of said end-users that connect; and

6 circuitry operable for updating said entries of said end-users comprising dynamic  
7 parameters whenever said parameters are changing while connected.

1 9. (currently amended) The system according to claim 6 wherein the circuitry operable for  
2 retrieving parameters associated with said end-user for said access request from said client  
3 application includes:

4 circuitry operable for obtaining leading data from said client application having issued  
5 said access request for said end-user;

6 circuitry operable for parsing said leading data;

7 circuitry operable for determining a protocol said client application is currently using;

8           circuitry operable for interrogating said directory at an entry corresponding to said first  
9           end-user; and

10          circuitry operable for retrieving parameters associated with said protocol;

11          executing said protocol in accordance with said parameters associated with said protocol.

1       10.   (original) The system according to claim 6 further including the circuitry operable for  
2       informing said end-user of said client application that a server application is unavailable if a link  
3       to said application server is not established.

1       11.   (original) A computer program product embodied in a tangible storage medium, the  
2       program product for providing transparency in a gateway of an IP network, the program product  
3       including a program of instructions for performing the steps of:

4           interrogating a directory comprising data for each end-user of said IP network;

5           retrieving parameters associated with said data for a first end-user in response to an  
6           access request from a client application of said first end-user;

7           accessing an application server on behalf of said client application in accordance with  
8           said retrieved parameters for said first end-user; and

9           relaying data between said client application and said application server.

1       12.   (currently amended) The computer program product according to claim 11, further  
2       comprising instructions for performing the step of:

3           creating, in said gateway of said IP network, [a] the directory including entries for every  
4       end user on said IP network.

1       13.     (original) The program product according to claim 11 further comprising instructions for  
2 performing the step of:

3             updating, in said gateway of said network, the directory of said end-users, said step of  
4 updating the directory including the steps of:

5                 disabling entries for those of said end-users that disconnect;

6                 enabling entries for those of said end-users that connect; and

7             updating said entries of said end-users comprising dynamic parameters whenever said  
8 parameters are changing while connected.

1       14.     (currently amended) The program product according to claim 11 wherein the step of  
2 retrieving parameters associated with said end-user for said access request from said client  
3 application includes the steps of:

4             obtaining leading data from said client application having issued said access request for  
5 said end-user;

6                 parsing said leading data;

7                 determining a protocol said client application is currently using;

8             interrogating said directory at an entry corresponding to said first end-user; retrieving  
9 parameters associated with said protocol; and

10             executing said protocol in accordance with said parameters associated with said protocol.

1 15. (original) The program product according to claim 11 further including instructions  
2 for performing the step of informing said end-user of said client application that a server  
3 application is unavailable if a link to said application server is not established.